for a suitable expansion of our water transit route. So far, however, Bangladesh has been reluctant to respond positively to our proposal.

Possession of Nuclear bombs by Pakistan

3670. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRI SHANTI TYAGI:
DR. ISHWAR CHANDRA GUPTA: SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Pioneer dated the 3rd December, 1992 under the caption "Pakistan has seven N-bombs"; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in respect thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government constantly monitor all developments having a bearing on India's security and take necessary measures to safeguard it.

Payment of dues to United Nations

3671. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India propose to bring up the issue of nonpayment of dues to the United Nations, particularly those by big powers like the USA through any U.N. or other international Forum;

(b) what are the total arrears of dues according to United Nations Secretary General's Circular of September this year; and

(c) how much of it is owed by big powers and by India and other developing countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) India had raised the question of nonpayment of dues by member States to the UN on several occasions in the relevant Committee of the UN. The most recent occasion was the call by the Indian PR on 10th October, 1992 for prompt payment of dues by member States.

(b) The total arrears due to the UN for regular budget and peace-keeping operations as on 31 October 1992 was US $1470.4 million. Of this, US $640 million was due in respect of peace keeping operations.

(c) The amount of arrears owed to the UN by big powers, developing countries and India are given in the annexure. *[See* Appendix CLXV, Annexure No. 59]

Proposal for environment protection fund at NAM Summit

3672. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal for environment protection fund, on the lines of the proposal earlier mooted by the former Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, was moved by India during the recent Non-aligned Summit meet held at Jakarta; and

(b) if so, what consensus was arrived at in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir. At the recent NAM Summit which was held in Jakarta in September, 1992', India had put forward a proposal for a funding mechanism to develop and acquire environmentally sound technologies for developing countries along the lines of the Planet Protection Fund mooted by late Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

(b) This proposal was endorsed by the Jakarta NAM Summit.